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News from the Midwest

Midwest Archives Conference

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News from the Midwest—Troy Eller English, Wayne State University, and Alison Stankrauff, Indiana University South Bend, Assistant Editors

Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Troy Eller English at au2050@wayne.edu, and items for Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Alison Stankrauff at astankra@iusb.edu. Submissions must be 150 words or less.

ILLINOIS

Brethren Historical Library and Archives

Brethren Historical Library and Archives in Elgin has recently opened the papers of Dale W. Brown, a professor at Bethany Theological Seminary in Oak Brook, Illinois, from 1962 to 1993. The collection of 24 linear feet includes correspondence, sermons, and lectures of this important Church of the Brethren scholar, pastor, and peace activist. The Brown Papers document his peace activism during the Vietnam War era and into the early twenty-first century and include correspondence with prominent Brethren and ecumenical figures. Visit www.brethren.org/bhla for more information.

Illinois Wesleyan University

Illinois Wesleyan University's Archives and Special Collections launched a collaborative online collection for the David and Sarah Davis Family Correspondence in March. Supreme Court Justice David Davis (1815–1886) and his wife wrote several thousand letters to friends, family, acquaintances, and one another, providing insights into daily life and historic events over much of the nineteenth century. Patricia Kasbohm Schley of the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site in Bloomington created transcriptions of original letters held by at least eight archives. Illinois Wesleyan University archivist Meg Miner advised on the site structure and metadata and trained student assistants to post files in a hosted instance of CONTENTdm. Consortium of Academic and Re-

search Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) staff provides ongoing software support. Transcriptions of approximately three hundred letters are available to date, with an expected total of over fifteen hundred at the end of this collaborative effort. See tinyurl.com/Davis-Family-Correspondence.

INDIANA

An online digital library containing nearly 250 unpublished, informally published, and popular works by theologian John Howard Yoder, a prominent twentieth-century Mennonite theologian, is now available. A collaborative project undertaken by Goshen College's Mennonite Historical Library (Goshen, IN), the Mennonite Church USA Archives (Goshen, IN), and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart, IN), the digital library is accessible through the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana (PALNI) and Indiana Memory websites.

The project was funded by a grant of \$12,023 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Indiana State Library. The Shalom Foundation awarded an additional \$2,000 grant to continue building this digital library.

IOWA

University of Iowa

The Department of Special Collections and University Archives, University of Iowa Libraries, has been awarded a grant of \$300,000 from the National Endowment for the

Humanities to preserve and digitally reformat the Keith/Albee Collection, named for Benjamin Franklin Keith and Edward Franklin Albee, partners in a vaudeville talent booking agency based in Providence, Rhode Island, during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Over 50 linear feet of documents, including correspondence, newspaper clippings, and playbills will be preserved and made accessible online to researchers when the project is completed in 2017. Read more at collguides.lib.uiowa.edu/?MSC0356.

KENTUCKY

University of Louisville Archives and Special Collections

The University of Louisville Archives and Special Collections has added two new digital collections. Home for Us All: Fair Housing in Louisville-Jefferson County Oral History Collection (digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/housing) includes audio interviews and transcripts from developers, planners, housing advocates, social justice activists, and educators discussing the history of housing in Louisville from 1960 to 2011 and how it has formed the city today.

The Louisville Underground Music Archives (LUMA) recently digitized the complete set of the *Official Burt the Cat Fanclub Newsletter* zine (digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/luma). The fanzine, a staple of the mid-nineties music scene in Louisville, covered live shows, reviewed records, and offered photos and commentary on all things

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punk rock in the city from 1995 to 2002. Launched in 2013, LUMA documents the history and culture of Louisville's rock/punk/indie/hardcore music scene from the 1970s through today. In addition to the physical copies of *Burt*, LUMA houses show recordings, set lists, photographs, posters, flyers, t-shirts, and more.

MICHIGAN

Cranbrook Educational Community

The Cranbrook Archives has acquired two important collections. The Robert Rohm Papers documents the internationally recognized sculptor's life, thought processes, and development as an artist from his time at Cranbrook until his death in 2013. The Noel and Isabel Buckner Papers includes architectural drawings and photographs of their home in Michigan. Designed by Robert Harter Snyder, then head of the Architecture Department at the Academy of Art, the Buckner residence was a prime example of midcentury modern architecture.

A new exhibition, *Ephemera: The Stories that Letterhead Tell*, will open



Pictured in this 1957 image, Noel and Isabel Buckner's house in West Bloomfield, Michigan, was a classic example of midcentury modern architecture. Designed by Robert Harter Snyder, the house was recently demolished. Image courtesy Cranbrook Archives.

in early October. As part of Archives Awareness Month, a three-part lecture series will accompany this exhibition. For more information, visit cranbrook.ent.sirsi.net/client/cranar.

Detroit Sound Conservancy

The Detroit Sound Conservancy (DSC) was founded in 2012 to preserve Detroit's musical legacy. Last summer, the DSC executed a successful Kickstarter fund-raising campaign to start an oral history archives for Detroit music online and in the city based on preexisting recordings from Detroit's music journalists. This May, a hundred people attended the DSC's "Conserving Sounds; Telling Stories" conference. Twenty-three presented their research, and six music journalists spoke about the past, present, and future of Detroit music journalism. This summer, the DSC worked to secure vault space for audio recordings of Detroit music and funding for a full-time executive director. See detroitssoundconservancy.org.

Wayne State University

This summer, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission awarded the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs a grant totaling \$109,152 to improve the description and facilitate the discovery and promotion of 1,660 oral histories of individuals directly involved in the labor, civil rights, and social justice movements, among other important historical developments. Donated to the Reuther or conducted by staff members over the last 40 years, these stories bring a new perspective on the American experience through the lives and work of such prominent national figures as Grace Lee Boggs and Cesar Chavez, organizations like the NAACP and the UAW, and unknown rank-and-

file workers, immigrants, pioneering professional women, and minority urban dwellers. Find details at www.reuther.wayne.edu.

MINNESOTA

Red Wing Shoe Company Museum

The Red Wing Shoe Company Museum, overseen by the Corporate Archives, planned and hosted the first annual Red Wing Museum Crawl, May 31–June 1, 2014. The Museum Crawl highlighted the newly acquired Phil Revoir Collection of photography, ephemera, and memorabilia, which documents the Red Wing area, the Hiawatha Valley of the Mississippi River, and the surrounding communities. A private donor purchased the materials from professional photographer and restoration specialist Phil Revoir for distribution among the six historic museums of Red Wing. The Museum Crawl consisted of an exhibit at each historical institution, a passport to collect stamps to enter a drawing, and a sale of surplus and duplicate items from the collection. Hundreds of visitors, including Revoir and his family, made the tour of Red Wing history museums over the weekend.

NEBRASKA

Nebraska State Historical Society

The Nebraska State Historical Society's moving image collections received a grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation to reformat badly shrunken home movie reels from the St. Augustine Mission School, circa 1936–1939. The Catholic school served the Winnebago tribe of Nebraska. Footage shows daily life

at the mission, including classroom, play, and festival scenes. Treatment of the films will include repair, cleaning, and reprinting on polyester film stock.

OHIO

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Founded in 1883, the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center embarked on a one-year project to inventory its collection of historic materials, which are housed throughout the hospital. The Mitchell-Nelson History Library and Museum houses the largest portion of Cincinnati Children's informal archives, including the papers of A. Graeme Mitchell and J. Victor Greenbaum, the records of the Cooperative Society and the Thrift Store, historical patient records, oral history interviews and other recordings, pathology slides, photographs, medical equipment, and artwork. Other departments hold administrative records, baptismal registers, marriage registers, and histories of nurses and patient care workers. This history has been displayed in exhibit cases and timeline panels throughout the hospital. It is hoped that this inventory project will provide administrators with the direction and impetus to maintain the institution's archives in the future.

Denison University

The William Howard Doane Library at Denison University has been awarded an Ohio 5 Andrew W. Mellon Digital Scholarship: Projects and Pedagogy Grant. Working in partnership with the Denison Museum, the Center for Burma Studies

at Northern Illinois University, the American Baptist Historical Society, and Axis Maps, Denison Libraries will build a digital, cartographic narrative of American Baptist Missionary activity throughout Burma in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Digitizing and mapping personal letters, diaries, journals, official meeting minutes, photographs, and artwork will allow for a spatial, textual, and visual analysis of both evangelical missionary engagement with Burma and the country's transition under British colonial rule. Visit the blog at missionaryburma.wordpress.com.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Center for Western Studies of Augustana College

The Center for Western Studies (CWS) of Augustana College in Sioux Falls has embarked on a major redesign of its "permanent" historical exhibit spaces. The \$225,000 project is intended to expand upon the Northern Plains history and culture themes presented to visitors to the center's Fante Building while also emphasizing the vast research materials available in the CWS archives. The overall concept of the new exhibits is "voices of the past," referring to the voices that "speak" to us through Plains Indian and immigrant artifacts, as well as through the letters and photographs that provide context for understanding these objects. Highlights include sections on the continuation of immigrant folk art practices and important regional authors O. E. Rølvaag, Frederick Manfred, and Herbert Krause. The

center is working with Split Rock Studios, a nationally ranked exhibit design firm based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the project. The new exhibits are scheduled to open in the summer of 2015.

WISCONSIN

Marquette University

The Department of Special Collections and University Archives has acquired the records of the Faye McBeath Foundation along with a grant to fund processing of the collection. The foundation has provided grants to nonprofit organizations in Wisconsin that work for the welfare of the community, particularly in support of children, the elderly, and health education. Newspaper heiress Faye McBeath set up the Milwaukee-based foundation in 1964 to operate for 50 years, and its resources were exhausted in 2014. Processing of the records will be completed by the end of 2014. Dr. Tom Jablonsky of Marquette's History Department has received a grant from the foundation to research and write a history of the organization.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The archives recently launched Milwaukee Polonia, a digital collection of nearly 32,000 photographs of Milwaukee's south side when the area was primarily Polish American. The collection also includes historic maps and entries on places and things shown in the photos. It is online at www.uwm.edu/mkepolonia.